

Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970

By Doug McAdam

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In this classic work of sociology, Doug McAdam presents a political-process model that explains the rise and decline of the black protest movement in the United States. Moving from theoretical concerns to empirical analysis, he focuses on the crucial role of three institutions that foster protest: black churches, black colleges, and Southern chapters of the NAACP. He concludes that political opportunities, a heightened sense of political efficacy, and the development of these three institutions played a central role in shaping the civil rights movement. In his new introduction, McAdam revisits the civil rights struggle in light of recent scholarship on social movement origins and collective action.

"[A] first-rate analytical demonstration that the civil rights movement was the culmination of a long process of building institutions in the black community."—Raymond Wolters, *Journal of American History*

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Doug McAdam is a professor of sociology at Stanford University. *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency* pioneered the political process model for the analysis of social movements. He won the C. Wright Mills Award in 1990 for his book *Freedom Summer*. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003.

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